

Message Text

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ACTION COA-02

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TAGS: EAGR PE

SUBJ: ANCHOVY SITUATION

1. MINISTRY FISHERIES ANNOUNCED RENEWAL ANCHOVY FISHING ALONG ENTIRE COAST MARCH 5.

2. FISHING WILL PROCEED UNTIL 500,000 M.T. TAKEN BUT WITH NO FISHING PERMITTED SATURDAYS THROUGH MONDAYS.

3. PESCAPERU EXPECTED TO USE ABOUT 450 BOATS OF 200 TONS OR OVER, WITH SOME 120 FROM CHIMBOTE PORT ALONG.

4. EXPECTATIONS ARE FOR GOOD FISHING ALONG SOUTH AND CENTRAL COAST BUT SOME QUESTIONS YET WHETHER CHIMBOTE AREA WILL YIELD GOOD CATCHES. FISHERMEN THERE EXPECT FIND ANCHOVIES FARTHER OUT TO SEA.

5. ANCHOVY FISHING REPORTEDLY CONTINUES AROUND ILO IN SOUTH WITH DAILY CATCH AVERAGING 2000 TONS OR MORE. CHICAMA FISHERMEN STILL CATCHING ABOUT 3000 TONS DAILY OF WHITE ANCHOVY AND OTHER SPECIES.

6. FISHERMEN GENRALLY OPTIMISTIC BUT SCIENTISTS STILL CONCERNED THAT EXCESSIVE EXPLOITATION COULD SLOW RECOVERY. THEY BELIEVE THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH NUMBER AND SIZE OF BOATS INVOLVED MARCH QUOTA COULD BE CAUGHT

IN ABOUT FIRST 8 DAYS.

7. THERE GENERAL FEELING THAT INITIAL FISHING PERIOD MAY BE
LIMITED TO 1 MILLION TONS AND THAT TOTAL FOR 1974 MAY NOT EXCEED
3 MILLION.

8. WITH LUCK, PERU COULD AGAIN BE EXPORTING FISHMEAL IN APRIL.
PRESENT MEAL STOCKS BELIEVED TO BE ABOUT 60,000 TONS.

BELCHER

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